

TITUSKAPHAR

Titus Kaphar is a painter and sculptor whose practice examines the history of representation. In his art, he appropriates styles and conventions from the art historical canon, using techniques like cutting, shredding, and erasing to illuminate social inequalities in an attempt to confront the past and to highlight the inadequacies of our present. In Kaphar's words, he creates works "that nod to hidden narratives and begin to reveal unspoken truths about the nature of history." Titus Kaphar was born in 1976 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He received an MFA from the Yale School of Art and is a distinguished recipient of numerous prizes and awards including: a 2018 MacArthur Fellowship, the 2014 Gwendolyn Knight and Jacob Lawrence Fellowship, 2015 Creative Capital grant, 2016 Robert R. Rauschenberg Artist as Activist grant, 2018 Art for Justice Fund grant and the 2018 Rappaport Prize, among others.

Kaphar's work has been included in solo and group exhibitions at Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA; the Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY; MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY and the National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC. His work is included in the collections of Crystal Bridges Museum, Bentonville, AK, 21C Museum, multiple locations, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY and the Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), Miami, Florida, amongst others. His ambitious installation, *The Vesper Project*, a project that has since revived is currently exhibited at the Maruani Mercier Gallery in Zaventem, Belgium. Past locations include: the Abrams Engel Institute for Visual Art, Birmingham, AL, the Lois and Richard Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Arts, Cincinnati, OH, the Katzen Arts Center at American University, Washington, DC, New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain, CT, the Lowe Art Museum, Miami, FL.

In late 2014, TIME magazine commissioned Kaphar to create an artwork in response to protests in Ferguson, Missouri. In 2017, he led a TED Talk titled "How Can We Address Centuries of Racism In Art?" in which he explored the history of racism in Western artwork—and asked how we can amend it through contemporary art. He completed his whitewash painting, *Shifting the Gaze*, onstage.

Current exhibitions include *Knockout*, an exhibition at Tuskegee Legacy Museum, Fall 2019 and *Suffering From Realness*, at MassMoCA now through January 2020.

EDUCATION

2006

MFA, Yale University, School of Art, New Haven, Connecticut

2001

BFA, San Jose State University, San Jose, California

SELECTED ONE-ARTIST EXHIBITIONS

2019

Knockout, Tuskegee Legacy Museum, Tuskegee, AL October 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020

Redaction, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT September 29, 2019

Titus Kaphar, Maruani Mercier, Knokke, Belgium, August 2 - September 7, 2019

Forgotten Solider, American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, Yorktown, VA June 29, 2019 - March 22, 2020

One: Titus Kaphar, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York, June 21 - October 13, 2019

The Vesper Project, Maruani Mercier, Zaventem, Belgium, May 18 - September 28, 2019

Suffering from Realness, Mass MoCA, North Adams, MA, April 19, 2019 -January 1, 2020

Redaction, A Project by Titus Kaphar and Reginald Dwayne Betts, MoMA PS1, New York, March 31 2018 - May 6, 2019

2018

Unseen: Our past in a New Light, The National Portrait Gallery, Washington, DC, March 2018 - 19

2017

Impressions of Liberty, installation at Princeton University Maclean House, Princeton, NJ, November - December 2016.

2016

Titus Kaphar: Shifting Skies, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, December 16, 2016 - January 28, 2017.

2015

Titus Kaphar: Drawing the Blinds and Asphalt and Chalk, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, January 15 - February 21, 2015.

99 Jeromes, ArtSpace, New Haven, Connecticut, July 17 - September 12, 2015.

Titus Kaphar: Selections from Asphalt and Chalk, MoMA PS1, Long Island City, NY, June 10 - August 31, 2015.

2014-2019

The Vesper Project, Lois & Richard Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Art, Cincinnati, Ohio, April 17 - September 13, 2014. New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain, Connecticut, November 2014-February 2015; American University Museum at the Katzen Art Center, Washington, D.C., November 7 - December 13, 2015; Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, Fall 2015 -Spring 2016; Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, September 8 - December 23, 2016; Abrams-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts, University of Alabama at Birmingham, September 2017, Maruani Mercier, Zaventem, Belgium, May 18 - September 28, 2019.

2014-2015

The Jerome Project, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, November 13, 2014 -March 8, 2015.

2012

Titus Kaphar: Behind a Veil of Beauty, SEM Art Gallery, Monaco, July 7-September 9, 2012.

2011

Titus Kaphar: Classical Disruption, Friedman Benda, New York, New York, February 17-April 2, 2011.

2009

History in the Making, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington, April 3-September 7, 2009.

Reconstruction, Roberts & Tilton, Culver City, California, September 12-October 10, 2009.

2008

Painting Undone, Gutstein Gallery, Savannah College of Art and Design, Savannah, Georgia

2005

New Revolution, Yale Art Gallery, Trumbull Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut

2004

Visual Quotations, Anno Domini Gallery, San Jose, California, February 6-26, 2004.

Erase-ing Art History, Provisions Library, Washington, D.C., March 19-30, 2004.

2000 SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

The House That Crack Built, San Jose State University Gallery 2, San Jose, California, Spring, 2000

2018

Parallel lives, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, IL, June 1-August 18, 2018

On whiteness, the Racial Imaginary Institute at The Kitchen, New York, NY, June 27-August 3, 2018 From enslavement to mass incarceration, permanent exhibition, the Legacy Museum, Montgomery, AL, 2018-

2017

20/20: The Studio Museum in Harlem and Carnegie Museum of Art, Heinz Galleries, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA, July 22 - December 31, 2017.

Examining Political Expressions in African American Art, Detroit Institute of Arts, Michigan, July 23 - October 22, 2017.

The Legacy of Lynching: Confronting Racial Terror in America, Brooklyn Museum, New York, July 26 - September 3, 2017.

2016

For Freedoms, Jack Shainman Gallery, 513 West 20th Street, New York, NY, June 30 – July 29, 2016.

Arresting Patterns: Perspectives on Race, Criminal Justice, Artistic Expression, and Community, African American Museum in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 30 – September 11, 2016.

Recharging the Image: Selections from the Mott-Warsh Collection, Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, Summit, New Jersey, April 4 – July 10, 2016

Dress Up, Speak Up: Costume and Confrontation, 21c Museum Hotel, Durham, North Carolina, September 2016 – July 2017

2015-2016

I See Myself in You: Selections from the Collection, Brooklyn Museum, New York, August 26, 2015– 2016

Us Is Them, The Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, Ohio, September 18, 2015 – April 3, 2016. *Travels to: Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts*, Grand Rapids, Michigan, January 27 – May 14, 2017. *Winter in America*, The School, Kinderhook, New York, October 17, 2015 – March 19, 2016.

2015

FOCUS I: IDENTIFIED, Selected Works from the Collection of Jim Sokol and Lydia Cheney, Abrams-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts, University of Alabama at Birmingham, June 5 - July 25, 2015.

The Art of Ideas Festival, 21c Museum Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky, August 21 – October 11, 2015.

Breath/Breadth: Contemporary American Black Male Identity, Maier Museum of Art at Randolph College, Lynchburg, Virginia, September 3 – December 11, 2015.

New Arrivals 2015: Collecting Contemporary Art at The University of Maryland, Stamp Gallery, College Park, Maryland, September 21 – December 18, 2015.

To Be Young, Gifted, and Black, Goodman Gallery, South Africa, September 26 – November 11, 2015.

Status Quo, The School | Jack Shainman Gallery, Kinderhook, NY, January 31 – April 12, 2015.

2014-2015

Arresting Patterns: Race and the U.S. Criminal Justice System, ArtSpace New Haven, New Haven, Connecticut, July 17, 2014 – September 13, 2014.

Beyond the Classical: Imagining the Ideal Across Time. National Academy Museum, New York, October 1, 2014 - January 11, 2015

2014

11 Dimensions: Titus Kaphar, Wardell Mila, Demetrius Oliver, Inman Gallery, Houston, July 11–August 16, 2014.

Mise En Scène, The School, Kinderhook, NY, August – December 2014.

2013

11 Dimensions: Titus Kaphar, Demetrius Oliver, Wardell Milan, Louis B. James, Louis B. James Gallery, New York, New York, June 7–July 26, 2013.

3 & 3, Galerie Zidoun, Luxembourg

Cuban Forever, The Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, Ohio, September 7–June 21, 2014.

2012

Pose/RePose, SCAD Museum, Savannah, Georgia, July 23–November 18, 2012.

The Bearden Project, The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York, August 16–Oct 21, 2012.

2011

ReInterpreting the European Collection, Bermuda National Gallery, Hamilton, Bermuda, January 21–May 22, 2012.

2010-2011

Roundabout, The City Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand, September 25, 2010–January 16, 2011.

2010

The Gleaners: Contemporary Art from the Collection of Sarah and Jim Taylor, Victoria H. Myhren Gallery, Denver, Colorado, February 11–March 7, 2010.

Stitches, Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, California, April 11–June 6, 2010.

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Birmingham Museum of Art, Alabama
Brooklyn Museum, New York
The Burger Collection, Zurich, Switzerland
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville,
Arkansas The Equal Justice Initiative Museum,
Montgomery, Alabama Mott-Warsh Collection, Flint,
Michigan
New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain,
Connecticut Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), Miami,
Florida
The Museum of Modern Art, New York
The National Gallery of Victoria, Australia
The Pizzuti Collection, Columbus, Ohio
Seattle Museum of Art, Seattle, Washington
Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, New York
Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond
The Legacy Museum, Montgomery, AL

AWARDS

2018

MacArthur Fellow
Art For Justice, Imagining Justice Grantee
The Rappaport Prize

2017

The Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant

2016

Artist as Activist Fellow: Racial Justice + Mass Incarceration, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation

2015

Creative Capital Fellow

2009

Gwendolyn Knight and Jacob Lawrence Fellowship Recipient, Seattle Art Museum

2006

Artist in Residence, The Studio Museum In Harlem

2004

Belle Arts Foundation Grantee

2001

California Arts Council Grantee